

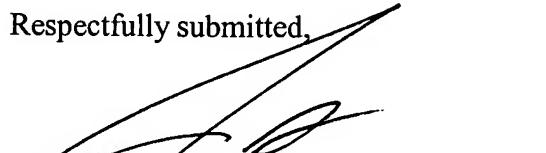
REMARKS

In the Office Action of April 29, 2005, independent Claims 1, 14, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5, 729, 592 to Frech et al. Independent Claims 1, 14, and 18 each recite a hub switch. In the Office Action, it was asserted that the service node 131 described at col. 3, lines 43-47 and col. 5, lines 13-15 of Frech et al. corresponds to the recited hub switch. Applicants respectfully disagree. Simply put, a hub switch is not a service node. To expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 14, and 18 to specifically recite that the hub switch is other than a service node. Support for this amendment is found, inter alia, in Figure 13, which shows hub switch 790 being other than the service node 760.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. If there are any questions concerning this Amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4719.

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Respectfully submitted,


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